

Message Text

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 01 STATE 008483

51

ORIGIN PA-04

INFO OCT-01 CCO-00 RSC-01 SS-20 SSO-00 ISO-00 PRS-01 NEA-10

EUR-25 /062 R

DRAFTED BY PA/PG:DBROWN:DS

APPROVED BY PA/PG-DBROWN

S/S - MR. LUERS

DESIRED DISTRIBUTION

PA, S/S, S/PRS, NEA, EUR

----- 105458

O 151502Z JAN 74 ZFF4

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMCONSUL JERUSALEM IMMEDIATE

UNCLAS STATE 008483

TOSEC 101

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: OVIP (KISSINGER)

SUBJECT: PRESS MATERIAL

HEREWITH FULL TEXT TUESDAY JANUARY 15 WASHINGTON POST LEAD
EDITORIAL HEADED "THE PENTAGON SPYING RING":

WHAT FOLLOWS IS A SUMMARY OF THOSE INTRICATE AND INTRIGUING
NEWS ACCOUNTS THAT HAVE APPEARED IN THE LAST FEW DAYS AND
DEALT WITH A STRANGE INTERNECINE CONFLICT WITHIN THE AD-
MINISTRATION.

IN MID-1971, THE MILITARY COMMAND IN THE PENTAGON APPAR-
ENTLY FEELING CLOSED OUT OF THE PRESIDENT'S TIGHTLY HELD
MAJOR DIPLOMATIC INITIATIVES, ARRANGED ON ITS OWN TO GET
CERTAIN DOCUMENTS AND NOTES OF MEETINGS FROM THE WHITE
HOUSE. SOME OF THIS MATERIAL SEEMS TO HAVE FOUND ITS WAY
TO COLUMNIST JACK ANDERSON. WHEN ANDERSON PUBLISHED AN
TO COLUMNIST JACK ANDERSON. WHEN ANDERSON PUBLISHED AN
ACCOUNT OF A NATIONAL SECURITY COUNCIL MEETING ON THE INDO-
UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 02 STATE 008483

PAKISTANI WAR IN DECEMBER, 1971, AN ANGRY HENRY KISSINGER--

HE WAS THEN MR. NIXON NATIONAL SECURITY ADVISER IN THE

WHITE HOUSE--ORDERED AN INVESTIGATION OF THE LEAK. THE "PLUMBERS," ESTABLISHED SOME MONTHS EARLIER, TURNED TO THE TASK AND FOUND A "RING" OF MILITARY PERSONNEL TAKING UNAUTHORIZED INFORMATION FROM DR. KISSINGER'S FILES AND MEETINGS.

WHEN THEN HAPPENED TO THOSE SOMEHOW INVOLVED? ONE JUNIOR PERSON REPORTEDLY ATTEMPTED "BLACKMAIL" BY THREATENING TO EXPOSE THE OPERATION TO PUBLIC VIEW IF HE WERE NOT GIVEN A "VERY HIGH POST"; HE DID NOT GET SUCH A POST BUT WAS NOT DISCIPLINED AND WAS KEPT ON IN THE GOVERNMENT. THE JOINT CHIEFS OF STAFF LIAISON AT THE NSC, A REAR ADMIRAL, WAS GIVEN A NEW AND IMPORTANT PENTAGON POSITION: HE DENIES INVOLVEMENT. A CLERICAL AIDE, A YEOMAN, WAS TRANSFERRED; HE SAYS HE PROMISED THE NAVY "TO NEVER TALK ABOUT WHAT HAPPENED." A SUPPOSED RECIPIENT OF THE INFORMATION ADM. THOMAS H. MOORER, WHO IS THE COUNTRY'S TOP MILITARY OFFICER, WAS REAPPOINTED TO A SECOND TWO-YEAR TERM AS CHAIRMAN OF THE JOINT CHIEFS; HE DENIES ANY LINK TO UNAUTHORIZED INFORMATION "FROM DR. KISSINGER'S OFFICE."

AS FOR MR. NIXON FOR 18 MONTHS, EVER SINCE THE EXISTENCE OF THE "PLUMBERS" CAME TO LIGHT, HE HAS RESISTED INVESTIGATION OF THEM ON GROUNDS THAT DISCLOSURE WOULD HARM THE "NATIONAL SECURITY." A NUMBER OF OFFICIALS NOW PRIVATELY SAY THAT THE PENTAGON SPYING CASE IS WHAT HE HAD PARTICULARLY IN MIND. IN ITS SINGLE PUBLIC COMMENT ON THE PENTAGON SPYING CASE, MADE LAST FRIDAY* IN RESPONSE TO THE FIRST LIMITEO PRESS REPORTS ON IT, THE WHITE HOUSE DID NOT EXPLICITLY ACKNOWLEDGE EVEN THAT A CHARGE OF PENTAGON SPYING HAD BEEN MADE. RATHER, THE STATEMENT SINGLED OUT "DELIBERATE LEAKS TO THE MEDIA OF EXTREMELY SENSITIVE INFORMATION OF INTEREST TO OTHER NATIONS" AND SAID "THE SOURCE OF THESE LEAKS WAS A LOW-LEVEL EMPLOYEE (APPARENTLY THE YEOMAN) WHOSE CLERICAL TASKS GAVE HIM ACCESS TO HIGHLY CLASSIFIED INFORMATION" (COLUMNIST ANDERSON DENIED THE YEOMAN WAS HIS SOURCE.) FURTHER DISCLOSURES WOULD BE "INAPPROPRIATE," THE WHITE HOUSE SAID. "IT MAY BE UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 03 STATE 008483

THAT A LATER TIME THE FACTS CAN BE MADE PUBLIC WITHOUT DETRIMENT TO THE NATIONAL INTEREST."

IN BRIEF: THE PENTAGON SPIED ON DR. KISSINGER WHEN THE OPERATION CAME TO LIGHT INSIDE THE GOVERNMENT, IT WAS COVERED UP: THE PRINCIPALS WERE GIVEN MINIMAL OR NO REASON FOR PERSONAL EMBARRASSMENT AND PREEMPTIVE DISCLOSURE OF

THE MATTER WAS MADE TO KEY LEGISLATORS--COMPLETE WITH THE USUAL "NATIONAL SECURITY" ARGUMENT FOR MAINTAINING THE STRICTEST SECRECY. NOW THAT THE OPERATION HAS COME TO PUBLIC ATTENTION; THE WHITE HOUSE IS TRYING TO BREEZE RIGHT BY.

NO DOUBT THIS IS NOT THE FULL STORY. IT IS ENOUGH TO MAKE PLAIN, HOWEVER, THAT THE "VILLIAN" OF THIS PIECE, AS OF SO MANY OTHERS, IS PRESIDENT NIXON'S OBSESSION WITH SECRECY, RATIONALIZED WITHOUT WARRANT OR COMPELLING JUSTIFICATION AS AN IMPERATIVE OF "NATIONAL SECURITY." IN MAKING HIS OPENINGS TO PEKING AND MOSCOW AND IN SEARCHING FOR A WAY OUT OF VIETNAM, HE HAD A BROAD CHOICE BETWEEN SOLICITING, ON THE ONE HAND, THE UNDERSTANDING AND SUPPORT OF THE EXECUTIVE BUREAUCRACY-- AND, IN THEIR RESPECTIVE TIMES AND WAYS, THE CONGRESS AND THE PUBLIC--AND ON THE OTHER HAND, CONDUCTING A LONE OPERATION. MR. NIXON CHOSE THE LATTER COURSE. DID HE THINK
E E E E E E E

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: n/a
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 15 JAN 1974
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: n/a
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01 JAN 1960
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1974STATE008483
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: DBROWN:DS
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: n/a
From: STATE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1974/newtext/t19740140/aaaablvp.tel
Line Count: 128
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE
Office: ORIGIN PA
Original Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: n/a
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: smithrj
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags: ANOMALY
Review Date: 28 FEB 2002
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <28 FEB 2002 by chappeld>; APPROVED <21-Nov-2002 by smithrj>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: PRESS MATERIAL HERewith FULL TEXT TUESDAY JANUARY 15 WASHINGTON POST LEAD
TAGS: OVIP, (KISSINGER, HENRY A)
To: JERUSALEM
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005